

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Specification

The specification has been amended by copying material into the present specification from the co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/575,146 filed 23 May 2000 (now allowed) (docket no. NPP018US), and from co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/575,195 filed on 23 May 2000 (pending) (docket no. NPA002US), which applications are both incorporated by reference into the present application.

Claims

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-9 and 12-36. By the present amendment claims 1, 4-5, 21 and 36 have been amended. Therefore claims 1-5, 7-9 and 12-36 remain pending in the present application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 5 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention.

The Examiner asserted that claim 5 was unclear as it was dependent on claim 4 which was dependent on claim 3 which included language similar to claim 5. Appropriate clarity has been provided by amending claim 4 to depend on claim 1.

The Examiner pointed out a lack of antecedent basis in claim 21. That has now been corrected by changing “the number of requests...” to “a number of requests....”

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-5, 7-9, and 12-36 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over “Intelligent Paper” by M. Dymetman, and Max Copperman, in Electronic Publishing, Artistic Imaging and Digital Typograh, Proceedings of EP’98, March/April 1998, Springer Verlag LNCS 1375, pp 392-406, hereinafter Dymetman et al. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Dymetman et al. disclose the use of Intelligent Paper defined as “standard sheets of paper entirely covered with printed marks, invisible to the human eye, but visible to [an optical pointer]” (page 393, third paragraph). Each sheet includes a *page-id*. The Intelligent Paper is then bought in bulk by, for example, a publisher, and visible graphic data is then printed over the invisible marks. See page 398, first paragraph: “...the natural tendency of publisher to buy Intelligent Paper sheets in bulk, so that it may be known by the first router that a certain number of consecutive page-ids are ‘owned’ by a certain publisher.” The publisher must then manually associate each *page-id* with whatever graphic content the publisher chooses to print on the page corresponding to each *page-id*. After such manual association occurs, only then is a router able to associate a particular *page-id* with a “URL of the digital page referenced by [the] *page-id*.”

Such Intelligent Paper that requires manual association between a *page-id* and visible graphic data printed on the page is very different from the Netpages disclosed in the present application. Rather than requiring such manual association, the present invention enables an automatic association between coded data including an identity of a page and graphic data printed on the page. Such automatic association is possible because the same printer prints both the coded data and the graphic data substantially simultaneously.

To clarify the above distinction between Dymetman et al. and the present invention, the present independent claims have been amended to add the following limitation: *"the first printed media including coded data indicative of an identity of the first printed media and of a plurality of reference points on the first printed media, the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the reference points relative to the first printed media, wherein an association in the first server between the first identifier and the identity of the first printed media is automatically created when the first printed media is generated."* Such a limitation is neither disclosed nor suggested by Dymetman et al.—and in fact such a limitation is not possible using the pre-printed "bulk" Intelligent Paper of Dymetman et al.

Support for the present amendment is found in co-pending U.S. Application No. 09/575,146, incorporated by reference into the present application, which claims: *"A printer according to claim 50, wherein the printer is configured to print the second coded data and additional information substantially simultaneously onto the second surface."* Application No. 09/575,146 further includes the identical paragraph (at page 10, beginning at line 3) describing graphic data printed using visible ink, and coded data printed as a collection of tags using invisible ink, that is included in the present specification and amended by the present amendment. Therefore the present specification has been amended to include the statement that "The graphic data 2 and the coded data 3 are printed substantially simultaneously."

Further, co-pending U.S. Application no. 09/575,195 filed on 23 May 2000, incorporated by reference into the present application, states on page 27, lines 13-14: "This printer simultaneously prints cyan, magenta, yellow, black, and infrared inks as well as paper conditioner and ink fixative." Thus that statement has been copied into the present specification in the paragraph beginning on page 10 at line 19, so as to provide clear support in the present specification for simultaneous printing of visible graphic data (e.g., the "first identifier of a third party", according to some embodiments of the present invention) and invisible coded data (e.g., the "identity of the first printed media").

Further support for the first printed media of the present independent claims including "coded data indicative of the identity of the first printed media is found in the specification as originally filed at page 13, lines 21-24, where the coded data are referred to as "tags":

"Each reference to the page description is encoded in a printed tag. The tag identifies the unique page on which it appears, and thereby indirectly identifies the page description. The tag also identifies its own position on the page. Characteristics of the tags are described in more detail below."

Finally, support for the coded data identifying a unique location of each of the reference points relative to the first printed media is found in the specification as originally filed at page 19, line 27, to page 20, line 1:

"A location-indicating tag contains a tag ID which, when translated through the tag map associated with the tagged region, yields a unique tag location within the region. The tag-relative location of the pen is added to this tag location to yield the location of the pen within the region. This in turn is used to determine the location of the pen relative to a user interface element in the page description associated with the region."

In light of the above amendments to the independent claims, the Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the corresponding dependent claims are now moot.

Accordingly, the Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is thus courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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